

## Message Text

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51

ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 FBO-01 /024 W

----- 067166

R 281350Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMCON FRANKFURT

AMCON LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

SECSTATE WASHDC 7218

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 0416

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: ACR SHIPMENT

REF: BONN 03145 AND HELSINKI 0388

1. BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE AND INFO OBTAINED FROM LOCAL TRUCKING FIRM ENGAGED IN REGULAR TRANSPORT WORK BETWEEN HELSINKI, LENINGRAD AND MOSCOW IT WOULD APPEAR HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT EMBASSY TRUCK COULD DEPART LENINGRAD ON SATURDAY MARCH 9. ASSUMING FERRY ARRIVED HELSINKI ON SCHEDULE, APPROX. TWO HOURS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR UNLOADING AND CUSTOMS CLEARANCE IN HELSINKI. IF TRUCK DEPARTED HELSINKI AT 1100 HRS. MARCH 8 IT WOULD ARRIVE AT THE BORDER AT APPROX. 1500 HRS. UP TO TWO HOURS COULD BE REQUIRED TO CLEAR BORDER CUSTOMS IF ALL DOCUMENTS ARE IN ORDER. ASSUMING BORDER CLEARANCE AT 1700 HOURS TRUCK WOULD ARRIVE LENINGRAD AT 2300 HOURS AND ENTER CUSTOMS AREA WHERE IT WOULD BE HELD UNTIL APPROX. 0700 MONDAY MARCH 11.

2. UTILIZATION OF A GERMAN DRIVER WILL NECESSITATE A VISA. BASED ON LOCAL EXPERIENCE, OBTAINING A VISA COULD REQUIRE SEVEN TO TEN DAYS AFTER APPLICATION. SENDING THE EMBASSY TRUCK INTO LENINGRAD COULD ALSO COMPLICATE MATTERS.

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3. BASED ON INFO AVAILABLE TO THIS POST IT WOULD  
APPEAR THAT THE PLAN DETAILED IN HELSINKI 0388 IS THE  
MOST PRACTICAL, AND MOST LIKE AFFECT DELIVERY TO  
DESTINATION AT THE EARLIEST DATE I.E.: ARRIVAL HELSINKI  
MARCH 8, TRANSFER FROM ONE TRUCK TO COMMERCIAL VEHICLE  
THE SAME DATE AND SCHEDULE NEW TRUCK FOR DEPARTURE FROM  
HELSINKI AT AN EARLY HOUR ON MONDAY MARCH 11. THIS  
ARRANGEMENT WOULD ALSO FACILITATE SHIPMENT OF THE BOXED  
HW-28 FOR LENINGRAD CURRENTLY HELD IN HELSINKI.

4. ACCURACY OF ESTIMATED BORDER CLEARANCE TIME AND DELAY  
IN CUSTOMS CLEARANCE IN LENINGRAD SHOULD BE CONFIRMED  
OR CORRECTED BY THE LENINGRAD CONSULATE. IT IS  
HELSINKI'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE LENINGRAD CUSTOMS  
OFFICE CLOSES AT 1700 HRS ON FRIDAY AND REMAINS  
CLOSED UNTIL 0700 ON MONDAY MORNING.  
KREHBIEL

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